

SOUTH CAROLINA WILDLIFE AND MARINE RESOURCES COMMISSION

October 15, 1976

Dutch Plaza
Columbia, South Carolina

The regular monthly meeting of the South Carolina Wildlife and Marine Resources Commission was held at the Dutch Plaza office in Columbia, South Carolina at 10:00 am on October 15, 1976 with Chairman Hudson presiding over the meeting. Other Commissioners present were Buchanan, Boykin, Shuler, Edens, and Lumpkin. Advisor Sam Crouch was in attendance, along with the following others: Dr. James A. Timmerman, Jr., Dr. Edwin Joseph, Pat Ryan, John Culler, John B. Reeves, Brock Conrad, Bill Cotty, Duncan Newkirk, Bob Campbell, Bobby Gifford, Edward B. Latimer, Tommy Welch, Edward O. Pendarvis, Mac Watson, Jeff Fuller, Larry Cartee, Norris B. Jeffrey, Bob Joyner; Clark Surratt, State Newspaper; Frank Caggiano, House of Representatives Agriculture and Natural Resources Committee; Ernest Harmon, Ellis Cannon, Donald R. Turner, Larry Cannon and Ike Trotter representing deer hunters in Saluda County, and various others.

CALL TO ORDER

CALL FOR EXECUTIVE SESSION: Dr. Timmerman requested Executive Session following the regular meeting to discuss personnel matters. Commissioner Boykin made a motion to hold the Executive Session as requested by Dr. Timmerman. The motion was seconded and passed.

ITEM I. READING OF LAST MEETING MINUTES: Commissioner Boykin made a motion to dispense with the reading of the September Commission Meeting Minutes and to approve them as submitted. The motion was seconded and passed.

ITEM II. APPEARANCE: DEER HUNTERS - SALUDA COUNTY: Brock Conrad gave some background information on this subject stating that our Game Management program consists of 1.5 million acres of land scattered throughout South Carolina. The majority of this land is in the Western and Central Piedmont Hunt Units. Legislature passed a law, after the Wildlife Department has stocked these areas with deer and turkey, that would allow the Department to set a deer season within the period October 1 through January 1 of each year. Each year, prior to setting the deer season, comments are taken by the Department from anyone regarding this. One of these groups was a group of rabbit hunters who presented a petition similar to the ones being presented in this case and it was felt that the Department should give the rabbit hunters some time to hunt on the Game Management Areas. It was felt that we shouldn't allow deer hunting with dogs in these areas and if rabbit hunters were allowed to use dogs during a big game hunt, it would cause Law Enforcement many problems. Conrad stated that he sympathized with the deer hunters as far as the deer season being closed in that area during Thanksgiving holidays. However, since the Game Management Area brochures are already printed and released the only way to notify the general public of the change would be through the newspapers, etc. and if a man was caught rabbit hunting with dogs during that period, there would be no way we could legally charge him if he was going by the GMA brochure and had not seen the news release, etc. This would lead to a tremendous amount of confusion and Conrad stated that he did not feel that this is the time to make the change. Any changes should be considered at least a year in advance. Mr. Ernest Harmon, spokesman for the deer hunters in Saluda County, stated that his group feels that a way can be worked out where everyone can do some type of hunting and that he has no objection to a man rabbit hunting while he is deer



hunting. Harmon also stated that his group feels that everyone should be allowed to start hunting at the same time as the bow and muzzle loader hunters. In addition, their feeling is that the season should be a set season from October 1 through January 1 with no breaks. It is also felt that the GMA brochure is too technical for the average hunter to understand. Harmon stated that the change could be announced in the Sunday newspapers. He noted that if a person has private land leased or owned that he should be allowed to hunt on that land if he can't hunt on GMA lands. Commissioner Buchanan noted that he had a petition with several signatures on it from his County, in addition to the other petitions that have been received by the Department. Conrad stated that a petition had been received from the rabbit hunters requesting the season be closed during those dates. He also stated that he could assure these groups that their requests would be considered for next year before setting the seasons, however, any changes now to this years schedule would create considerable confusion. Commissioner Boykin asked Conrad what effect would changing the regulations to allow the private land owners within the Game Management Area Hunt Units to continue the deer hunting over Thanksgiving weekend. Conrad replied that there would be some confusion in some areas in the State where the Game Management Area land is interspersed with the private land. Commissioner Boykin stated that he feels that our program is somewhat unfair to the private land owner to restrict his ability to hunt his own land during normal time simply because we have a Management Area program going for people who don't own land. Conrad stated that staff has tried to manage the deer herd in this area as one. All deer killed on private land must be brought to a check station as well as on GMA land. Since the department stocked the deer in this area, staff has tried to manage the unit as a whole. Chairman Hudson asked Pat Ryan to report on the problems regarding Law Enforcement. Ryan stated that his staff's main concern is the use of dogs during a period of time where you cannot control the dogs and you end up with open hunting for deer with dogs in an area that is historically closed to dogs. This is difficult, if not impossible, to control. Regarding the private land factor that Commissioner Boykin brought out, Ryan stated that he knows what Boykin is talking about, however, when you are talking about total management program you would have to go into unit management. Not to do so, you would break down your total management, because there is no way to control the area or unit where you have got hunting on private land compared to public land. Chairman Hudson stated that if he can run dogs for rabbit on his private land, he could be running dogs for deer and you would still have the same enforcement problem. One problem is the dogs getting off the private property onto GMA lands. Commissioner Buchanan stated that he felt that the enforcement would not be a problem since a hunter would have to have something other than bird or rabbit shot to be deer hunting. Mr. Ryan stated that this type of enforcement would become very time consuming if officers had to start checking for type of shot being used. Records at check stations show that most of the deer hunting pressure is over by Thanksgiving. Jeff Fuller stated that the brochure is rather complicated, however, they have made every effort to keep it simple, compared to other states. Mr. Harmon pointed out that rabbit may be hunted from November 25 to February 15 on private land, as well as seventeen (17) days of GMA land hunting from Thanksgiving day and they can hunt running dogs starting September 15. This puts the rabbit hunters ahead of deer hunters as far as hunting days are concerned. Dr. Timmerman noted that South Carolina has a longer deer season than any other state in the United States. Conrad



stated that the true rabbit hunter is not going to cause any problems. It is just the people that are going to use this as a loophole. Pat Ryan stated that we do have to keep every control that we can, but as Conrad pointed out, whatever the management staff and the Commission decide on, Law Enforcement will enforce. Chairman Hudson asked Advisor Sam Crouch what his feelings were on this matter. Crouch stated that he didn't see why we couldn't enforce this situation by checking shot size and that he thought it was rather odd that we have some staff that feels that we could use this method and others that feel it wouldn't be practical to enforce. He stated that he hopes the Department will try this one year and see what the outcome is. Commissioner Buchanan recommended that primitive weapon season open September 1, realizing that this would take an act of legislature, and give them thirty (30) days to hunt and open regular gun season on October 1 through January 1, and have a standardized season to avoid confusion. Conrad concurred with this recommendation and felt that the population of the deer herd could be controlled in certain areas with either sex days rather than staggering the opening days to get a larger number of hunters into a particular area. Dr. Timmerman asked Ed Latimer whether or not an officer would have the legal authority to take a hunters gun and check it for type of ammunition. Latimer replied that it was his opinion that the officer would have this power under the current laws. Timmerman also questioned Latimer as to whether or not setting of the deer seasons would come under the State Register that is to go into effect January 1 concerning advertising Rules and Regulations. Latimer stated that in order to avoid some confusion when this new law becomes effective, he suggested to the Wildlife and Freshwater Fisheries staff promulgate next years Rules and Regulations between now and the end of December. Also, it would be a good idea, as it has been suggested, to standardize the dates and have this Rules and Regulation stay in effect with a paragraph in there stating that certain seasons will be changed at the will of the Commission and to have all the Rules and Regulations relating to Game Management Areas permanent. Latimer stated that he felt this should be done between now and the end of the year. Turkey hunting should also be included in this. Commissioner Shuler stated that he feels that the private land owner or a person leasing land with hunting rights should not be restricted to the dates of the GMA lands and should be allowed to hunt when the season is open. Commissioner Boykin stated that it is his feeling that we should leave the dates as they are this year and to take into consideration everything that has been said when determining next years dates. Commissioner Edens concurred with Commissioner Boykin. It is just not practical to change the dates this year, he stated, and volunteered to take this matter under consideration with the Advisory Board and to have more research by the staff, if so desired. Commissioner Boykin made a recommendation that we remain in our present position this year with serious consideration for all of this discussion starting next year and that staff go into the proper research and come back with a recommendation. Commissioner Lumpkin made a motion to adopt Commissioner Boykin's recommendation. Commissioner Edens seconded the motion and it was passed. Dr. Timmerman expressed his appreciation to those deer hunters who have taken the time to come to this meeting to express their opinions. There was more discussion as to whether or not the dates can be changes to allow deer hunting over Thanksgiving weekend only. The question was brought up by the deer hunters as to whether or not the Legislature could change this. Chairman Hudson stated that the only way this could be done would be to call a special session of the Legislature to make this change and the Governor is the only one who can call a special session of the Legislature. This would be very unlikely. Commissioner Lumpkin stated that the November meeting would still



give the Commission time to consider the request for opening only during the three day period over the Thanksgiving holidays. Staff could study this and come back to the November Commission Meeting with further recommendations. Chairman Hudson extended an invitation to the deer hunters to attend the November Commission Meeting where further discussion will be held on this matter. Chairman Hudson instructed Jeff Fuller, Pat Ryan, Brock Conrad and staff to get together on this matter and see what could be done on this.

ITEM III. COMMENTS

Dr. Timmerman expressed his appreciation to those Commissioners who attended the Budget and Control Board Meeting along with Benny Reeves and all of the staff for the fine job they did in the preparation of this budget and its presentation. Timmerman stated that he felt the budget was very well received by the Budget and Control Board.

Dr. Timmerman stated that he has had several requests from the Commission concerning the license tag situation for this year and asked for information from the Commission on this matter. It was the general feeling of the Commissioners present at the meeting that this was a matter to be worked out between the individual and the Highway Department.

Dr. Timmerman passed out a list of the bids received on the Southeastern Utilization Research Center and recommended that the Commission accept the low bid shown here (Dargan Construction Company) in the amount of \$3,270,000, subject to the approval of our architect and engineer after a full investigation. Dr. Joseph reported that this activity began approximately three (3) years ago when the National Marine Fisheries Service was interested in moving their main East Coast seafood technology laboratory that had been located for a number of years the University of Maryland campus in leased quarters. The quarters were not adequate and the University was not interested in building new ones, therefore, they started a site search and ended up choosing a Ft. Johnson site. Staff will move down there as soon as the building is completed and Joseph stated that it will compliment what we are doing very well. We are not in the seafood technology business, so there is no duplication or overlap. That lab has been primarily concerned with better means of processing and preserving seafoods and new seafood products and new industrial processing in connection with the industry. We still have to go through the final bid negotiation with GSA and the bids that were accepted yesterday are good for sixty (60) days which means we still have a legal process to complete during that time. The lease agreement could not be completed until the bids were let because we did not know the precise capital cost of the building prior to that time. The lease will be set up so that the entire investment on the part of the state will be returned to the state over a period of time. The state will own the building from the very beginning and the entire revenue bond investment will be returned to the state. This is a net lease. Dr. Joseph stated that it would be good if the Commission be on record for supporting the low bid if the State Engineers determine the low bid is an acceptable bid. The lease will precede the signing of the contract to build the building. Commissioner Edens made a motion to approve the low bid on the Southeastern Utilization Research Center. The motion was seconded and passed.

ITEM IV. OLD BUSINESS



A. EMPLOYEE HUNTING ON STATE-OWNED PROPERTY: Chairman Hudson asked Bill Cotty to report to the Commission the two different opinions that the Department of Interior has given on hunting on State owned property where Federal Funding is involved. Cotty gave a historical background report on the procedures that have been followed concerning hunting on state owned property, primarily Belmont, now known as the James W. Webb Wildlife Research Center. He stated that in November 1975, Dr. Timmerman asked the Atlanta Fish and Wildlife Service to review the general policy that the Department had been following in issuing these permits asking them to review this policy and give the Department their opinion on whether or not this policy met the Federal Aid guidelines. In addition, they were asked to review every other type of activity performed on that property to make sure that we were in line on everything we did. In addition, Timmerman asked if there were any special rules as to whether there are any activities that can be or cannot be funded by Federal aid. The report came back to Dr. Timmerman in January 1976 stating specifically that we could not have individual permits, groups, other than a drawing, news media, foreign dignitaries, etc. unless they were selected in the same way as the general public in a drawing. This opinion was much different than what they had indicated to us earlier on the question. Commissioner Buchanan asked what type of research is being done at the Webb Center. Brock Conrad reported that there are several quail research project being done at the Center currently. Deer have been taken from that area and restocked in other areas of the state. The area is primarily being used for public hunting for deer, quail, dove, squirrel, racoon, and fishing. It is opened to the Boy Scout Camp down there and a number of other things. In addition to the 75% Federal Funding, the State provides 25%. With the sale of timber from there, it is pretty much self supporting. A myrex study on quail in connection with Clemson is being done at the Center in addition to several red cockheaded woodpecker projects with the non-game and endangered species program, as well as an alligator project. Chairman Hudson stated that his main concern is whether or not the Federal Government is taking over State projects and whether or not they are going to be able to dictate in the future fully to the States everything that we can do or cannot do. Hudson stated that his main interest is from the States standpoint, since we are the agency responsible for that is to pursue at a higher level exactly what the Federal Government's position is on joint projects between the Federal Government and the State Government. We have 600,000 acres of Federal land in our Game Management Area program. Hudson stated that it is his feeling that this should be pursued in Washington and get their opinions on this. These Rules and Regulations are not being followed in other states. There is no uniformity in the opinion. Commissioner Edens made a recommendation that Chairman Hudson, Dr. Timmerman, Bill Cotty and Ed Latimer, as a Committee, pursue this matter to the U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service and that the Department use Mr. Black's letter as a guideline in the interim until further information can be obtained in this regard. The Commission was in agreement with this recommendation.

B. SOUTH ISLAND MANAGEMENT PLAN: Jeff Fuller presented a copy of the draft of the South Island Management Plan to the Commission and went over it briefly with them. A calendar of events was also included as information. This plan should be underway by January 1. Chairman Hudson noted that Mr. Yawkey has adequately funded this gift so that it will not cost the state anything. There are approximately 16,000 acres in the gift. A formal motion was made to accept the property, the motion was seconded and passed.



ITEM V. NEW BUSINESS

A. AQUATIC WEED CONTROL BRIEFING: SANTEE COOPER LAKES: Dr. Norris Jeffery presented a report to the Commission on the Santee weed control problem. Norris stated that the wildlife department and the Public Service Authority were working on a plan to correct the problem. Copies of four documents concerning this matter was given to the Commission for their information. Following completion of a draft Aquatic Plant Management Plan scheduled for completion mid-November this year, a meeting will be held by the representatives of various states and Federal agencies for their input and comments on the plan. Jeffrey requested continued participation of our agency in the plan. A motion was made to approve this request. The motion was seconded and passed.

B. DIVISION REPORTS

1. ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES: Benny Reeves reported that the Department is currently involved with several construction contracts throughout the State. As of this date, approximately \$30,000 has been set aside for part of the renovation Dirlton Plantation in Georgetown. Staff is in the process of working on this with Wildlife and Freshwater Fisheries Division and Mac Flood to coordinate the work. Reeves also invited the Commission to view the computer system following this meeting.

2. WILDLIFE AND FRESHWATER FISHERIES: Jeff Fuller reported that the restructuring of the building at the Dennis Center should be completed today. The bids on Phase Two have been accepted. Fuller stated that his Division would like to bring before the Commission at it's next meeting, their recommendations for deer and turkey regulations for next year. He also stated that it is anticipated that this new State Register will cause our Department some problems, in that it will require us to run this information in the newspaper three to four weeks successively, and allowing a thirty day period for public input, and then public hearings on the matter. Getting this information to the Commission for action prior to the end of the year will legally keep us from having to go through that procedure this year. In veiw of the discussion with deer hunters from Saluda County at this meeting this morning, this would not allow much time for public input into the selection of the hunting season dates, as discussed at that time. Fuller suggested coming to the Commission in November with staff recommendations, go on into December and meet with the Wildlife and Freshwater Fisheries Advisory Board and possibly Law Enforcement, and make a final recommendation at the December Commission meeting for action by the Commission. Commissioner Buchanan made a recommendation that the Commission receive this information at the November Commission meeting, and act on it at the December Commission meeting. The Commission was in agreement with this recommendation.

3. INFORMATION AND PUBLIC AFFAIRS DIVISION: John Culler has nothing further to add to his written report.

4. LAW ENFORCEMENT AND BOATING: Bobby Gifford reported that there was nothing further to add to the written report.

5. MARINE RESOURCES: Dr. Joseph requested permission from the Commission to offer to lease space for the staff of the Southeastern Regional Fishery Management



Council (councils created under the extended jurisdiction act) at a meeting to be held next week in Charleston. The staff will consist of approximately five or six people supported by funds directly from the Secretary of Commerce, and should not expand beyond six to eight people. The Federal GSA has rental rates depending on the type of facility, etc. Joseph stated that he felt that it would be in our best interest to have this staff close by and it would be compatible with what we have at Ft. Johnson. Commissioner Boykin made a motion to accept Dr. Joseph's recommendation. The motion was seconded and passed. Dr. Joseph extended an invitation to the meeting to anyone who would like to attend.

6. NATURAL AREA AND RESOURCES PLANNING: Duncan Newkirk reported that staff is awaiting the Governor's decision on the appointment of an Advisory Board in the Heritage Trust Program, which should be forthcoming in the very near future. Newkirk also reported that the new members of the Coastal Zone Council met with the Governor for the first time this week and a meeting is scheduled next week for the Coastal Zone Council to meet with the Coastal Zone staff at Fort Johnson, October 19th, at 10:00 am. Invitation is extended to the Commission to attend this meeting. A draft list of the Coastal Zone Management Council members was passed out to the Commission for their information.

C. ADVISORY BOARD REPORTS

1. LAW ENFORCEMENT AND BOATING: Commissioner Boykin reported that his Advisory Board met last week. One issue discussed at that meeting was non-pay Game Warden procedures. Minutes of that meeting were mailed out. Commissioner Boykin made a motion that the Commission accept the recommendations of the Advisory Board which are set forth on Page 2&3 Item I through Item VIII in regard to Non-pay Game Warden Commission requirements. This included changing the title of "non-pay game warden" to Deputy Wildlife Conservation Officer. (A copy of the Minutes of that meeting are attached to and hereby made a part of the original copy of these Commission Meeting Minutes for future reference.) In regard to Item 6, Page 3, of the Minutes of the Advisory Board Meeting, on whether or not there is a statute on revoking a person's commission if he is convicted in court of a game and fish violation. Ed Latimer reported that this would come under Title Number Sixteen whereby the Governor has the authority to commission non-pay state constables therefore, since this is a Governor's commission, revocation would be at the discretion of the Governor. In effect, if there was any question about whether or not a man was worthy to continue operating under an officers commission, it would come before the Commission and they would decide whether or not to continue, and then make a recommendation to the Governor. Commissioner Buchanan questioned whether or not the Department would be assuming any extra responsibility in the event that one of these non-pay officers was injured or killed in connection with enforcement. Ed Latimer stated that in his opinion, the Department would not be assuming any responsibility since these officers are not state employees. Ryan stated that this system could be put into effect as of January 1, 1977. Commissioner Edens questioned the wording of Item D Page 2 of the Advisory Board Meeting Minutes. Commissioner Boykin stated that the wording the parenthesis was not part of his motion. Commissioner Edens also recommended that the wording "and potential for meaningful service to the Wildlife Department" be added to Item E Page 2, first sentence. In addition, Commissioner Edens recommended that in Item VII Page 2 the words "handling or" be removed from the second sentence. The Commission



approved the recommendations of Commissioner Edens in regard to these corrections. Commissioner Boykin's motion to adopt these guidelines was seconded and passed, with the approved corrections. There was some discussion in regard to Item 6 Page 3 on the subject of revoking a person's commission if he is convicted in court of a game and fish violation and it was the general feeling of the Commission that these cases would have to be handled on an individual basis. Commissioner Boykin reported that the Advisory Board recommends to the Commission that that Board has decided not to take a position on decreasing the fine of \$50 to \$25 for littering and that the Statute should be left as it is now. The Commission accepted this as information at this time, and see what the Legislature determines on this matter.

2. MARINE RESOURCES: Commissioner Lumpkin passed out copies of the Marine Resources Advisory Board and went over the Shrimp Trawling Policy recommended by Dr. Joseph. In addition to this, it was also suggested by the Advisory Board that all shrimp catches be logged, whether we sell them or not. Dr. Timmerman asked if these stipulations should apply to the scientific permits that are being issued. Dr. Joseph stated that in his opinion, these should not apply in those cases. Commissioner Lumpkin made a motion to adopt this policy. The motion was seconded and passed. In regard to Oyster Lease #42, Commissioner Lumpkin reported that it was the recommendation of the Advisory Board to allow Mr. Gault to go ahead and harvest clams and plant shell back in May, 1977, until this problem can be resolved. Also, that this oyster lease be reviewed again in June 1977. The details of this problem are pointed out on Page 2 beginning with paragraph seven of the Marine Resources Advisory Board Meeting Minutes dated October 8, 1976. Commissioner Boykin made a motion to accept this recommendation. The motion was seconded and passed. The matter of attendance at Advisory Board meetings was discussed and will be looked at again in the near future for some kind of solution to the problem.

3. WILDLIFE AND FRESHWATER FISHERIES: Commissioner Edens reported that he had nothing to report at this time, since his Board just met yesterday. There will be a full report at the November Commission meeting.

4. HERITAGE TRUST: Chairman Hudson had nothing to report at this time. As soon as the Governor appoints the new Advisory Board members, a report will be given.

D. SALARY REVIEW COMMITTEE: Dr. Timmerman reported that all reviews were in line and handed the report to the Chairman of the Commission.

E. APPOINTMENTS: A motion was made by Commissioner Boykin to approve all appointments and re-appointments on salaried and non-pay commissions as recommended. The motion was seconded and passed. Dr. Timmerman made a recommendation that Walter Glenn Baxter, Jr. be approved as a salaried officer and employed after the first of the year when the money is available, to replace Tom Goette who is retiring in June. It was also reported that Commissioner Trask called in and strongly recommended this approval. A motion was made to approve this recommendation. The motion was seconded and passed. Dr. Timmerman also recommended that the Commission approve Charles B. Thomson in Kershaw County and Heyward Burley in Fairfield County. These recommendations were not mailed out prior to this meeting due to unavoidable circumstances.



Commissioner Boykin stated that he felt that Thomson would make a good officer and that he is highly qualified. He made a motion to approve this recommendation. The motion was seconded and passed. There were no objections to the recommendation for Heyward Burley, therefore, Commissioner Boykin made a motion to approve this recommendation. The motion was seconded and passed.

Commissioner Buchanan stated that he would like to see Commissioner Edens serve on the Committee to pursue the problem on guidelines on Federal Funding in Washington. It was the consensus of the Commission that Commissioner Edens be on that Committee. Commissioner Edens stated that he would be glad to help in any way.

There being no further business at this time, the Commission adjourned into Executive Session to discuss personnel matters.

Respectfully submitted,



(Mrs.) Christine S. Murray,
Commission Secretary

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MINUTES

LAW ENFORCEMENT AND BOATING ADVISORY BOARD MEETING

October 8, 1976

The regularly scheduled meeting of the Law Enforcement and Boating Advisory Board was held on October 8, 1976 at Dutch Plaza. The following members were present: Chairman Sam Boykin, Arthur C. Williams, Sam Crouch, Gaines Smith, Lawson Hayes, Marion Burnside and James Kinard. Also present were: Bill Chastain, Bobby Gifford, Dr. James A. Timmerman, Jr., Burke Fields, Leonard Mishoe and Dudley Overton.

Chairman Boykin presided over the meeting with business being conducted in the following order:

1. Chairman Boykin welcomed Mr. Marion Burnside and Mr. James Kinard as new members of the Law Enforcement and Boating Advisory Board.
2. Advisory Board shoulder patches were distributed to those Advisory Board members present and they were told to wear the patches at their discretion.
3. The new Sportsman Calendar was also given to each member present. This calendar is published by the Division of Information and Public Affairs and is available to the public at a cost of \$2.50 each.

4. Dr. Timmerman went over the budget as presented to the Budget and Control meeting on Wednesday, October 6. He also discussed the functions of the different divisions of the Department and presented charts showing how funds are spent by each division. He also reported that the Department had asked for a 5½% increase over this year's budget or \$255,000.00. The Budget and Control Board requested that the Department list their priorities for the greatest need. Dr. Timmerman stated that the Law Enforcement Division received first priority because of the dire need for additional Conservation Officers. He also explained that by the time a Conservation Officer is added to the payroll, the Department will have expended \$20,000 per officer.

Dr. Timmerman told the Advisory Board members that the Department magazine and newspaper publication "THE RESOURCE" were two excellent ways that the Advisory Board members could use to promote good public relations and suggested that each member could also help the sale of these two publications by using their influence and thereby bring in the additional revenue to the Department. Chairman Boykin expressed a willingness to help by so doing. Dr. Timmerman also asked the Advisory Board members to use their influence with their respective legislative delegations in asking for additional budget funds. He said that he would give each of them a list of the persons who are members of both the Ways and Means and Senate Finance Committees.

5. Chairman Boykin called on Bill Chastain at this point to discuss the non-pay game warden system with the idea in mind of improving on the system so that recommendations could be made to the S. C. Wildlife and Marine Resources Commission at its next meeting. Recommendations were made as follows:



I. That the title "non-pay game warden" be changed to Deputy Wildlife Conservation Officer.

II. That prior to commissioning, all deputy officer applicants attend a one-week training course at the Criminal Justice Academy at their own expense. These courses would be presented on an annual or semi-annual basis and the curriculum would be formulated by the Safety and Training Officer. (Advisory Board members requested that a determination be made on the cost per person to attend this one week period of training and be in a position to report on this at the Commission meeting.)

III. That each deputy officer be required to attend a two-day in-service training school held within a law enforcement district each year. A uniform course of study would be devised by the law enforcement staff.

IV. Only applicants qualifying under the following criteria would be considered for commissions:

A. Landowner of 500 acres or more. Such property reasonably considered to be wildlife habitat and in need of additional protection.

B. Lease of 500 acres or more. Such property reasonably considered to be wildlife habitat and in need of additional protection.

C. Managers and Assistant Managers employed by landowners or lessees of 500 acres or more. Such property reasonably to be wildlife habitat and in need of additional protection.

D. Commissions may be recommended for certain bodies of water. (Gaines Smith raised the question concerning granting commissions for certain bodies of water. After some discussion Mr. Smith made a motion that all recommendations be approved by the Advisory Board with the stipulation that the Law Enforcement Division report to the Advisory Board after a period of one year the effectiveness of those individuals who were commissioned for certain bodies of water)

E. Statewide commissions may be recommended in special cases when there is sufficient justification. (Advisory Board members stipulated that the recommendation for Statewide authority, as all others, should be recommended by the Law Enforcement staff so that political influence could be eliminated)

W. Enforcement procedure guidelines for deputy officers:

A. Apprehend violators and place in custody until Conservation Officer arrives.

B. Take violators immediately to Magistrates.

C. Obtain necessary information to serve warrants.

VI. All equipment issuances, if any, shall be approved by the Director of Law Enforcement and Boating.

VII. All deputy officers shall be under supervision of the District Captain or his appointee within the respective districts. The supervising officers will be responsible for handling or recommending action on disciplinary matters.



VIII. All presently commissioned non-pay game wardens shall be required to comply with all new policies except that of basic training. In these cases, there will be a grandfather clause which will apply.

6. The Law Enforcement Advisory Board asked the staff to determine from the Assistant Attorney General if there is a statute on revoking a person's commission if he is convicted in court of a game and fish violation.

7. The Advisory Board also asked the law enforcement staff to check to see if the Department has the legal authority to issue equipment to a Deputy Conservation Officer.

8. Dudley Overton presented a discussion on the licensing of motorboat operators, pro and con. It was felt that a Boating Safety Education program is the answer to decreasing fatalities on the water and everyone agreed that the law enforcement effort has contributed to boating safety as well as boating education. Gaines Smith made a motion opposing any type license for motorboat operators in this State and said that he would like to see the education program continued.

9. Statute 16-396 on littering was discussed since it is the responsibility of the Law Enforcement Division to enforce this law. There was some discussion about changing the minimum fine from \$50 to \$25 because some of the Board members felt that \$50 was too high. The law stipulates \$50 as the minimum fine and \$200 the maximum. A motion was made that it be recommended to the Commission that the Law Enforcement and Boating Advisory Board has decided not to take a position on this and that the statute should be left as it now is.

10. Burke Fields was asked to report on saltwater fishing instructions. He said that Charlie Bearden is developing a plan concerning this item and that there was no report at this time, however, this item is to be placed on the agenda for the next Advisory Board meeting. It was suggested that perhaps at the next meeting a program could be presented demonstrating how to saltwater fish with Marine Resources, I&PA and the Law Enforcement Division participating in the presentation.

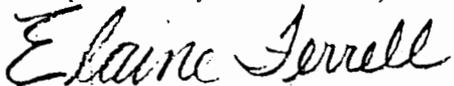
11. It was suggested that raising the hunting and fishing license fees should also be discussed at the next meeting.

12. Chairman Boykin said that the next Advisory Board meeting would be the second Friday in December (December 10). He suggested that the Division Director (Pat Ryan) be called for any items to be placed on the agenda for the next meeting.

13. Chairman Boykin directed that a copy of these minutes be mailed to each S. C. Wildlife and Marine Resources Commissioner.

14. Meeting adjourned.

Respectfully Submitted,



Elaine Ferrell
Staff Assistant
10/8/1976

cc: All Commissioners, All Advisory Board Members, Pat Ryan, Bill Chastain
Dr. Timmerman, Burke Fields



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